

AMENDMENT AND REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION...
U.S. APPLN. NO. 10/571,198

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. - 14. (canceled).

15. (previously presented): A portable electronic instrument, such as a wristwatch including:

- a case enclosing an electronic module and a display device;
- a crystal fitted onto said case;
- an electric power supply source housed in said case and powering said electronic module and said display device; and
- an antenna for receiving and/or transmitting radio-frequency signals electrically connected to said electronic module,

wherein said case includes:

- an exterior body including a bottom and lateral walls; and
- a bezel element fitted onto said exterior body and supporting said crystal,

and

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wherein said antenna rests on an outer face of said bezel element, and is arranged at 12 o'clock with respect to said display device and in an inclined position with respect to the plane in which said display device is located.

16. (previously presented): The instrument according to claim 15, wherein said bezel element is fitted in a sealed manner onto said exterior body.

17. (previously presented): The instrument according to claim 15, further including a casing ring element arranged between said bezel element and said bottom, said electronic module and said display device being enclosed between said bezel element and said casing ring element.

18. (previously presented): The instrument according to claim 17, wherein said casing ring element and said bezel element are secured to each other so as to form a sub-assembly able to be mounted on and dismantled from said exterior body.

19. (previously presented): The instrument according to claim 17, wherein said casing ring element is held in said bottom by fixing means.

20. (previously presented): The instrument according to claim 15, wherein said exterior body is made of metal material and wherein said bezel element is made of plastic material.

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21. (previously presented): The instrument according to claim 20, wherein an inner face of said bezel element is metallised and electrically connected to said exterior body made of metal material.

22. (previously presented): The instrument according to claim 20, further including an exterior element made of metal material, of essentially annular shape, fitted onto said bezel element, this annular-shaped exterior element having an aperture inside which said antenna is housed.

23. (previously presented): The instrument according to claim 15, further including a protective cover made of dielectric material fitted onto said bezel element and covering said antenna .

24. (currently amended): A portable electronic instrument, such as a wristwatch
including:

- a case enclosing an electronic module and a display device;
- a crystal fitted onto said case;
- an electric power supply source housed in said case and powering said electronic module and said display device; and

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- an antenna for receiving and/or transmitting radio-frequency signals electrically connected to said electronic module,

wherein said case includes:

- an exterior body including a bottom and lateral walls; and
- a bezel element fitted onto said exterior body and supporting said crystal,

wherein said antenna rests on an outer face of said bezel element, and is arranged at 12 o'clock with respect to said display device and in an inclined position with respect to the plane in which said display device is located, and

The instrument according to claim 15, wherein said antenna is a patch type antenna including a radiating element separated from a ground plane by a dielectric and electrically connected to said electronic module by a feed conductor, said ground plane resting on the outer face of said bezel element and being electrically connected to said electronic module by a ground conductor.

25. (previously presented): The instrument according to claim 24, wherein said ground plane is formed of a stamped metal plate including at least one leg bent outside the ground plane and directly connecting said ground plane to said electronic module, said leg forming said antenna ground conductor.

26. (canceled).

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27. (currently amended): The instrument according to ~~claim~~ claims 24, wherein said electronic module includes a printed circuit board to which said antenna is connected, and wherein said instrument further includes protection means for protecting said antenna and the circuits associated with said antenna against electrostatic discharge, these protection means including a printed serpentine path electrically connected via its ends between said feed and ground conductors of the antenna.

28. (previously presented): The instrument according to claim 15, wherein said bottom and said lateral walls are made as a single part.